

## Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-01

AGR-05 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 OIC-02 SIL-01

STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 ACDA-05 /138 W

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R 121424Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1976

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4210

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, US

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN PERM REP BOTHA'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR  
BENNETT, SEPTEMBER 11.

SUMMARY: SOUTH AFRICAN PERM REP BOTHA ASKED THAT SECRETARY  
KISSINGER BE INFORMED OF HIS DESIRE THAT US MAKE PUBLIC STATE-  
MENT OF SUPPORT FOR MAINTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP IN  
UN, "AS US HAS DONE FOR ISRAEL". END SUMMARY.

1. AT BOTHA'S REQUEST, HE MET WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT AT USUN,  
SEPTEMBER 11. BOTHA BEGAN BY DESCRIBING SOUTH AFRICA'S ABSENCE  
FROM 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AS A "GESTURE" TO AFRICANS, IN  
INTEREST OF AVOIDING ACRIMONY.

2. TURNING TO 30TH GA, BOTH SAID HE HAD BEEN ADVISED BY FOUR  
AFRICAN COUNTRIES, BY UK PERM REP RICHARD AND BY UN LEGAL  
COUNSEL SUY, TO PARTICIPATE. SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE PRESENT  
AT OPENING OF 30TH GA. FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER WILL NOT ATTEND.

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SOUTH AFRICA WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN GENERAL DEBATE. SOUTH

AFRICANS WILL NOT MAKE ANY STATEMENTS, OR PLAY ANY ROLE OTHER THAN ONE OF MAINTAINING A LOW PROFILE. SA CREDENTIALS WILL BE SUBMITTED "LATE". SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT CHOOSE TO CIRCULATE A DOCUMENT DESCRIBING CONCRETE ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY SAG TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

3. BOTHA SAID HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION WOULD GO UNCHALLENGED. HE FELT THE KEY TO BE THE RULING TO BE MADE BY GA PRESIDENT THORN. SURELY, BOTHA ADDED, THORN WAS AWARE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF STATEMENTS PRAISING SOUTH AFRICAN INITIATIVES MADE BY THE LEADERS OF TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND BOTSWANA, ET AL. BOTHA NOTED THAT HE BELIEVED THORN WOULD MAKE THE "RIGHT" RULING. (NEVERTHELESS, BOTHA -- AND SAG -- APPARENTLY HAVE NOT BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THORN).

4. BOTHA APPEALED FOR STRONG US SUPPORT. BENNETT SAID THAT THE USG CONTINUED TO DEFEND THE PRINCIPLE OF SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION. WHILE WE BELIEVE THAT CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN NAMIBIA AND ELSEWHERE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SHOULD BE ACCELERATED, AND DIFFER GREATLY ON APARTHEID, WE WILL DEFEND SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP, AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST. BOTHA SAID HE NEEDED MORE. QUESTION HAD ARISEN AT HOME AS TO WHY US PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP DID NOT INCLUDE SIMILAR STRONG SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA. HE SAID HE WAS NOT ASKING FOR U.S. SUPPORT ON SOUTH AFRICAN POLICIES BUT ON PRINCIPLE OF MEMBERSHIP FOR SOVEREIGN STATE. IF HE IS UNABLE TO GET SUCH SUPPORT, BOTHA CONTINUED, THERE WOULD BE A REAL RISK OF SA LEAVING THE UN. SHE OWED ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN DUES FROM LAST YEAR, AND ANOTHER ONE MILLION DOLLAR DEBT WOULD ACCRUE THIS YEAR. IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO HAVE THIS BUDGETARY ALLOCATION MADE SHOULD THE UN ACT UNFAVORABLY, FROM SOUTH AFRICA'S PERSPECTIVE, AND SOUTH AFRICA NOT ENJOY SUPPORT OF THE US AND OTHERS.

5. BOTHA SAID THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY TO SEE SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE ASKED THAT HIS REQUEST FOR A "PUBLIC STATEMENT" BE FORWARDED TO THE SECRETARY. CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR BENNETT ASSURED HIM THAT THIS WOULD BE DONE. MOYNIHAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 12 SEP 1975  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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